

AMENDMENTS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Twice amended) An antibody or antigen binding fragment thereof which is specifically reactive with a polypeptide or an antigen fragment thereof, wherein the polypeptide is characterized as:

a) having an amino acid sequence corresponding to the carboxy terminal amino acids of a connective tissue growth factor (CTGF) protein;

b) binding to heparin and being eluted from heparin with about 0.8 M salt; and

c) having a molecular weight of about 10 kDa to about 20k Da by reducing SDS-PAGE,

wherein the polypeptide has an amino acid sequence beginning at about amino acid residue 247 or amino acid residue 248 from the N-terminus of CTGF, and has mitogenic and chemotactic activity, and

wherein the antibody or antigen binding fragment thereof is not reactive with CTGF or with platelet derived growth factor.

7. (Amended) The [antibody] antigen binding fragment of claim 1, wherein the [antibody] antigen binding fragment is an antibody fragment.

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 7 are pending. For the Examiner's convenience, a copy of the claims as they will stand upon entry of the amendment is attached hereto as Exhibit A.